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Workers Voting on Unions

Nat'l. Supply Force Deciding C.I.O. Local Issue

Whether the C. I. O. or the local employees' union shall have exclusive bargaining rights representing employees of the Torrance plant of the National Supply company is being decided today by an election held at the plant.

The election is being conducted by officials of the National Labor Relations Board under provisions of the Wagner Act. It is the outgrowth of a meeting held a week ago at the offices of Dr. Towne Nylander, regional director of the N. L. R. B. in Los Angeles, between company officials, representatives of the C. I. O., affiliated union, and the Employees' Association of workers of the National Supply company of Torrance.

The question being voted upon today is whether the Employees' Association or the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel, and Tin Workers of North America, Lodge No. 1623, a C. I. O. affiliate, shall be given exclusive collective bargaining rights representing all employees of the local plant.

Will Recognize Winner Under the terms of the National Labor Relations Act, representatives designated or selected for the purpose of collective bargaining by a majority of the employees in a unit appropriate for such purposes, shall be the exclusive representatives of all employees in such unit for the purpose of collective bargaining in respect to rates of pay, wages, hours of employment, or other conditions of employment; Provided, That any individual employe or group of employes shall have the right at any time to present grievances to their employer.

It is expected that the result of the election will be known about 6 p. m. today. A high company official stated today that the company would "play ball" with whichever organization secured the majority vote.

Mass Meeting Held The election climaxes a vigorous campaign for members by the two rival organizations. A mass meeting of the Employees' Association was held Monday afternoon at the American Legion clubhouse on Carson street.

More than a thousand workers are now employed by the local plant of the National Supply company, which is enjoying the best business in over a decade.

Girl-Attacker is Sought by Police

One of the most pitiful stories of a child brutally attacked by a man, believed in his 30s, ever to confront local and Redondo Beach police is spurring authorities in both cities to an intense search for the fiend in whiskers and sideburns who ravished the eight-year-old girl Monday afternoon in a cornfield just within the Torrance boundary off Torrance boulevard.

The victim of the attack, child of Redondo residents, is now reported under care of a Redondo Beach physician. What started out to be a joyous day at the beach city for the girl and her 10-year-old brother ended in premeditated crime by the whiskered man, according to police.

Police Chief Harry Peterson obtained an excellent description of the alleged attacker from the girl and her brother Monday night after the parents had brought the child to the Redondo police station where the investigation and search was launched. He is believed to be a deeply tanned white man, 34 years of age, moustache and small beard.

Ruse Traps Girl His facial adornment leads police to believe that he is a resident of Redondo Beach who allowed his beard, moustache and sideburns to grow for the current Frontier Days celebration in that city. Local police are also checking other leads to the identity of the child-attacker and Police Chief G. M. Calder has offered every facility of the Redondo officers for the manhunt.

"The child tells the most pitiful story I believe I have ever heard," Chief Peterson said Tuesday. "She and her brother were accosted by the man near the Redondo pier and he asked them to deliver a paper to his wife, who, he said, lived just over the hill toward Torrance." He gave the children a copy of the newspaper and they started off. A few blocks away he overtook them. He was walking and said he would direct them where to go.

"As they reached the Torrance line, he pointed out a small house beyond the cornfield and told the boy to take the paper there. While the little girl's brother went to that house, the occupants of which do not know anything about his alleged 'wife,' he attacked the girl. Then he ran away. When the boy returned, his sister told him what happened and they went to the house where the boy had been sent by the man. The people there took the children home and the girl was rushed to a doctor."

A description of the alleged rapist has been given the Sheriff's office and authorities in all parts of the county are assisting the local and Redondo police departments in the search.

Youth Escapes Trial as Parents Refuse to Testify Here

With the arrest Sunday morning at his home in Redondo Beach of 21-year-old Frank Brennstahl, local police ran the list of alleged morals offenders jailed here since July 3 (when the infant Albert Dyer was nabbed) or the sex-slaying of three Inglewood girls) to four.

Brennstahl, a personable young man who said he was a landscape gardener, was booked on suspicion of lewd conduct in the presence of two little girls and a small boy Saturday on Elm street. Arraigned on that charge before City Judge Robert Lessing Monday morning he claimed he did not know he had committed any offense, admitted he had been drinking, and pleaded not guilty. His bail was set at \$500 and he was returned to jail pending his preliminary hearing.

AUTHORITIES COMMENT ON SEX CASES

"Every man guilty of impairing the morals of a minor is a potential murderer." This indictment by the chairman of the New York Academy of Medicine's committee on medical jurisprudence received staunch endorsement this week from both police Chief G. M. Calder and City Judge Robert Lessing.

They declared that they would continue to investigate and start court machinery in motion to bring every suspect reported to or noted by local police to prompt justice. Both pointed out, however, that police and court authorities must be certain that preliminary investigation will be free from errors in fact, thus assuring support for subsequent Superior Court action.

"The fact that we have had four alleged morals offenders in our jail during the past three weeks is nothing unusual," Judge Lessing pointed out. "At the present time the public is more aroused to this form of crime—on account of the Inglewood triple slaying—and consequently morals offenders receive more attention today than they have in the past."

"But the courts have long known a steady flow of such offenders and in New York City, I am told, arrests for sex crimes average one every six hours," Lessing continued. "Most offenders get off with fines or short jail terms. They are then turned loose to commit new crimes. I believe what the psychiatrists say—that the only remedy for this alarming evil is to make the punishment fit not the crime but the criminal; to keep such men locked up for life or until their abnormality has been cured."

Organ Recital Free to Public

An hour of organ music presented Tuesday evening at St. Andrew's Episcopal church will dedicate the new instrument recently installed in that church, it was announced this week. The public is cordially invited to attend this free musicale given by Dudley Warner Fitch, famed organist of St. Paul's Cathedral in Los Angeles.

There will be no charge or collection of any kind, church leaders assert, and all are bid to the concert which will begin at 8 o'clock. The program follows:

- 1. 17th Century composers. (a) Prelude.....Clerebant (b) Sarabande.....Corelli (c) Pastorale.....Traditional
2. (a) Sinfonia from "God's time is best" (b) from "Drama per Musica".....Bach
3. Londonderry Air.....arr Coleman
4. Largo from "Xerxes".....Handel
5. Chelsea Fayre.....Goss-Custard
6. Twilight in Bethany.....Diggle (dedicated to Fitch)
7. Rondeau, "The Cuckoo".....d'Aguin
8. from "Fireside Fancies".....Cloney
(a) A cheerful fire (b) The wind in the chimney (c) The kettle boils

Bible Class Prexy to Address Rotary

Members of the Torrance Rotary club will be addressed this evening by Bill Summers, president of the George Taubman Bible class—world's largest—at Long Beach. Summers was the first president of the Long Beach Junior Chamber of Commerce and is reputed to be a very able speaker. He is associated with Graham Brothers and last year won the national contest for writing the best sales letter. His appearance in Torrance was arranged by Wm. H. Stanger, program chairman of the Rotary club.

'Kidnaper' Hits Jap War Moves



General Yang Ha-Cheng, world famous now as the kidnaper of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek in China last winter, is pictured here with his wife and son while visiting San Francisco on a world tour to gain backing for China in its present difficulties with Japan. He was given a special commission and \$300,000—believed by some to be the generalissimo's ransom price—to carry out his work. Japanese aggression near Peiping, he said, "is an act the entire civilized world should not tolerate."

Musical Comedy is Ready for First Showing Tonite

"Love's in the Air" is more than the title of the musical extravaganza—its large cast and colorful costuming entitles the show tonight and Friday evening to that balmy lullaby. "Love's in the Air" all over Torrance and rare indeed is the home where someone isn't putting a final polish on his or her lines.

For the Woman's club benefit that will be revealed tonight at 8:15 at the Civic Auditorium.

It's taking a lot of rehearsals, private, in groups and with the whole big cast to whip the production into the form that Lucien Denni, lyricist and composer of the tuneful comedy, desires for the entertainment of Torrance people and their friends. Last night a full stage practice was not possible at the Auditorium but members of the cast gathered in home groups to go over their lines and songs. Director Denni said today that he was well satisfied with the many hours of work given to his musical work and that the first night audience will see a production as finished as any he has ever given. The final performance will be presented Friday night at 8:15.

Cast Is Enlarged Members of the Woman's club and the Kiwanis club, which received splendid cooperation from the woman's organization when the service club men staged their "Gay 90's" entertainment several months ago, are conducting a vigorous ticket selling drive. Tickets may also be purchased at the Auditorium box office both nights of the entertainment. Announcement was made this week by Director Denni of other members of the cast in addition to those reported in last week's Herald. The quartet composing the Fraternity Boys will be Louis Murray, Richard Miller, Kenneth Hull and Ralph Gilbert. Old-Fashioned Waltzers, who are to contribute an attractive interlude in the musical play are Carrie Parks, Edna Stone, Bert Fletcher and Dr. W. I. Loughton. New members of the chorus are Doris Eekersley, Coral Lindeman, Annabel McNeve, Marjorie Obole and Jean Howe.

THREE WOMEN TO FACE GARDENA JUDGE Charged with assaulting Nellie Lewis, Torrance laundry worker, in a bakery on Carson street, three women who have been on strike from the laundry since May 28, will have their trials before Police Judge Morse of Gardena instead of City Judge Robert Lessing of Torrance.

The latter announced early this week that he had voluntarily disqualified himself from presiding over the proceedings involving Ethel Kirk, 31; Emma Allgood, 32, and Gladys Brownlee, 25, who were served with the assault warrants July 13. "I thought it best to have this case tried in 'neutral' territory where no allegations of prejudice on the part of court or jury could be raised," Lessing said. "I endeavored to have Judge Frank Carroll of the township justice court preside but his calendar was full so Judge Morse

Underworld "Big Shot," Shot in Back, Creates Stir at Hospital Here

Hospital Basks (?) in Publicity Gambler's Presence Draws Spotlight

Since the L. A. Times first "broke" the story of how George "Les" Bruneman, Hollywood and beach gambler and bookmaker, was shot down Monday night in Redondo, columns of news stories have been printed by the metropolitan and adjoining daily press giving Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital and its staff the most publicity in the institution's 12-year history. Here, in brief, are a few sidelights that made "copy":

WELCOME VISITOR... One of the few privileged to enter Bruneman's room was Rev. Father Joseph Fitzgerald, pastor of the Catholic Church of the Nativity. He responded late Monday night to the wounded man's first request after recovering consciousness and administered the church's extreme unction.

PROFOUND SILENCE... Even police and sheriff's officers have failed to open the 39-year-old gambler's mouth about his ideas as to who shot him and why. And reporters and photographers, much to their disgust, have been unable to gain admittance to his room.

PRIVATE DICKS... Shortly after Bruneman's entry his self-appointed guards, who handled a couple of Times reporters early Tuesday morning, were replaced by two men who said they were "private detectives." One gives all persons entering the hospital a close scrutiny and answers all questions about his charge's condition—but very noncommittally—while the other sits on a chair outside the door to the patient's room.

MASSEUSE... Bearing a small red box, a woman appeared at the hospital Tuesday morning waiting to treat Bruneman to a "musical massage." She insisted that the little box would work miracles on the gunman's victim and maintained that she had "cured" many famed personages—with her method. After arguing nearly an hour with the door guard she departed, indignant that her efforts were not appreciated. Later she returned and gave a

Metal Scorned for Wood Signs

Lomita's new street signs may look very nice now but in the opinion of Councilman James Hitchcock they probably will "rust out very soon."

Hitchcock said he inspected the Lomita signs Monday and found that the name-bearing part of the standards were of "a thin grade of steel and hollow which will make them susceptible to rust in a short time." "Wood signs would be much better," he said. And then the councilman proposed an allocation of \$150 to install a new type of standardized street signs he is having designed here in the South Torrance area. The need for such markers in that district was told the city council last week by Dr. J. S. Lancaster.

Legion Units Answer Call

A score more American Legionnaires, Sons of Legion, Boy Scouts and members of the Legion Auxiliary here responded Sunday morning to the state-wide emergency call that was broadcast at 8 o'clock in the morning.

Rum Revenue California's beverage tax on beer and wine amounted to \$188,004.81 for the month of May.

Burly Guards Keep Visitors Away as Bruneman Gains

No improvement has been noted in George L. Bruneman's condition for the past 12 hours, it was learned shortly after noon today, and his case is described as "only fair." However, unless complications set in, he is expected to recover.

Sullen-looking, close-lipped burles guarded the front entrance and the door to a room, Los Angeles newspaper reporters and photographers scuffled with other "strong-arms" visitors, garbed in everything from dinner-jackets to cowboy outfits, flocked to the building in limousines and taxicabs and the telephone switchboard was jammed for hours with calls from 9:30 Monday night until late Tuesday morning at Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital.

George Lester (Les) Bruneman, 40, who figured in the E. J. (Zek) Carass gangster kidnaping in 1930, was lying in the well-guarded room, a bullet thru his back and his friends were rallying to his aid. Doctors, nurses and hospital attaches, shouldered the tense crowd aside to enter the room and administered a blood transfusion and opiate which appear today to have saved Bruneman's life.

The injured man, with laconic answers that he "did not know who shot me," turned aside all questions asked by Police Chief Harry Peterson of Redondo Beach and deputies from the Sheriff's office. And he still maintains today the silence which is the hallmark of the underworld.

Refuses to Talk Bruneman was shot in the back while he was strolling on the Redondo Beach Strand with Patricia Eatone, his companion. According to Chief Peterson Tuesday morning, Bruneman, long known as one of Los Angeles' "big shot gamblers," was fired on by two men. One was armed with a .45 calibre revolver, which was later found by Redondo Beach police, and the other fired a .38 calibre pistol. Four shots were fired at the strolling Bruneman but only one struck him. It emerged just under the left clavicle. Peterson said that a pair of gloves, believed to have been used by the assailants, were found near the discarded revolver.

District Unites On Expo. Site

With all Harbor district cities and communities united to bring the Los Angeles 1940 trade exposition to Torrance's "north front door," the next step will be the formation of committees on presentation of the site to the powers-that-be in Los Angeles and to finance and publicize the location.

The site selected by an overwhelming vote last Monday night at a meeting of the So. Los Angeles Exposition committee consists of 335 acres bounded by Normandie on the west, Figueroa on the east, and 182nd street on the north and 190th street on the south. This is the old Nigger Slough district but that charming name is to be cast out and—it is hoped—forgotten.

L. J. Gilmeister, secretary of the local Chamber of Commerce, suggested that a hyphenated title be chosen that would be symbolic of the exposition (to celebrate Cabrillo's landing at what is now known as Los Angeles harbor) and is purpose—industrial advancement. He proposes "Cabrillo-Pacific" but will welcome, as will others interested in the effort to locate the great show in this area, other suggestions. Will Elect Queen Dale Clanton, well-known Gardena civic leader, was chosen to head the group which will present the site to the Los Angeles Committee of 15 who will receive all exposition location suggestions about Aug. 15. The acreage in the Shoestring Strip adjoining Torrance on Normandie will be presented by means of maps, motion pictures (Continued on Page 2-A)